

Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA)

Investing in Prevention and Supporting Families



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Agenda

Child Welfare
Funding

Nebraska
Families
Served

FFPSA

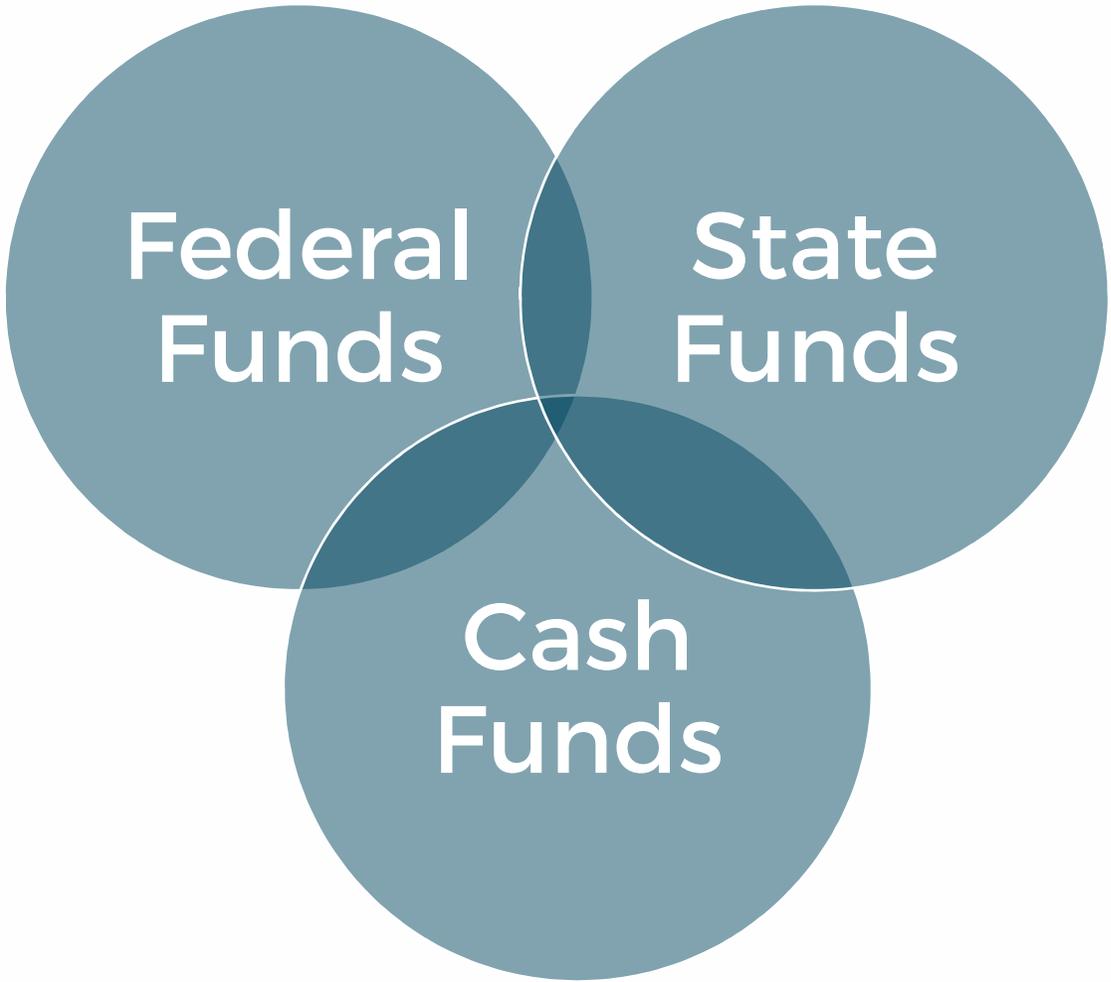
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Nebraska's Child Welfare Funding



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FFPSA: Monumental Shift in Child Welfare Funding



Most significant federal child welfare legislation in decades



Substantial changes to federal child welfare financing



Currently States can only receive federal foster care funding for children placed in foster care who were removed from very low income families and to support adoption/guardianship

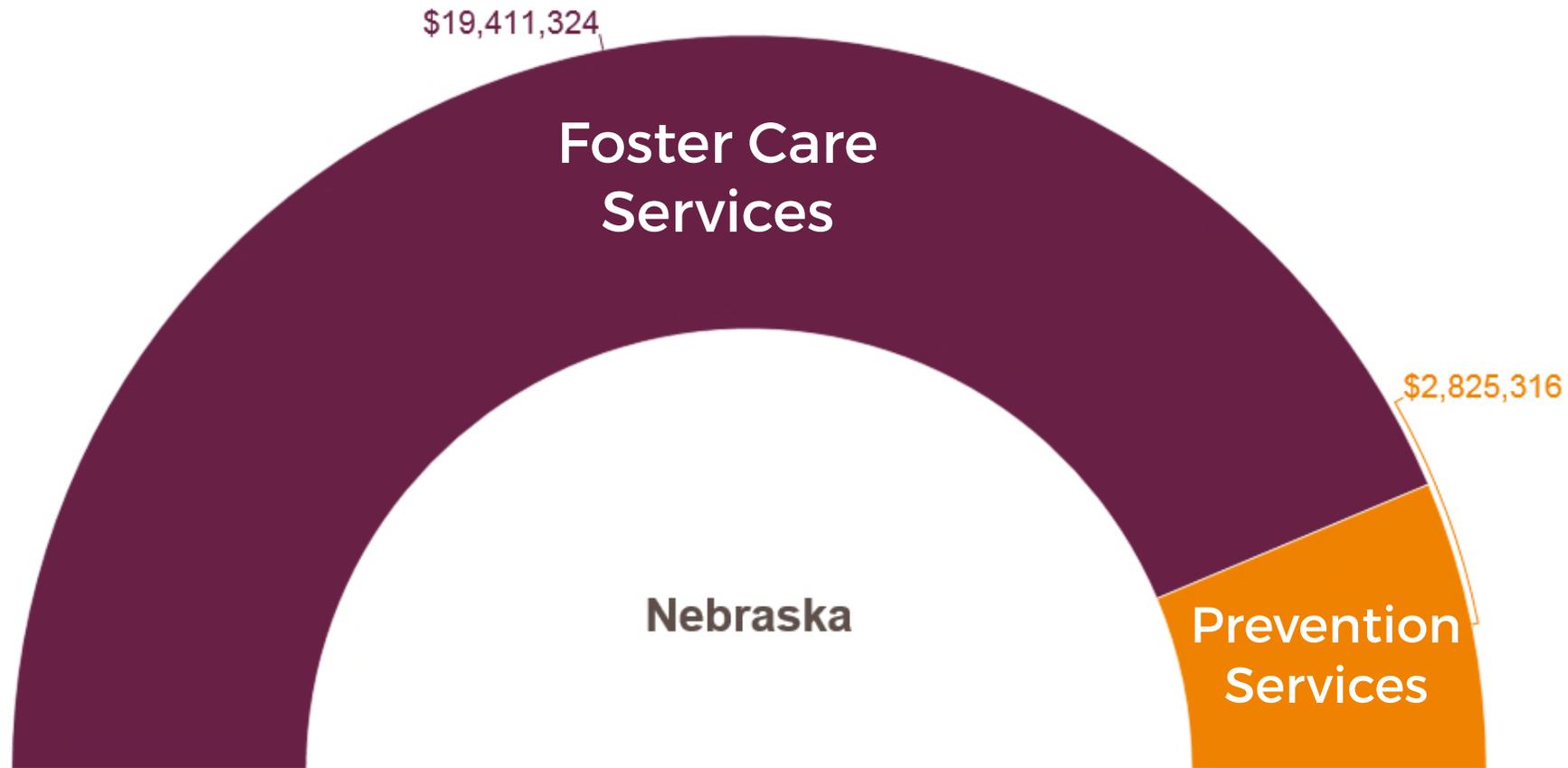
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2016 Nebraska Federal Money Received



- Casey Family Programs: 2016
Nebraska State Fact Sheet

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2016 Nebraska Federal Child Welfare Spending



\$19,411,324

Approximate amount of federal money spent on foster care services



757 children received federal foster care dollars



22,845 children involved in reports of maltreatment or other issues where timely interventions are important



\$2,825,316

Approximate amount of federal money spent on prevention and permanency services

- Casey Family Programs:
2016 Nebraska State Fact Sheet

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Nationally

In 2016, most states used the bulk of the \$7.3 billion in dedicated federal child welfare funding only for services related to foster care.

States can now begin to rebalance their investments and shift their focus from foster care services for some children...

to prevention and permanency services for all children.

- Casey Family Programs: 2016 Nebraska State Fact Sheet

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**Child Welfare
Funding**

**Nebraska
Families
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Approximate Number of Nebraska Families Served Annually

Children involved in an investigation

22,845

Children who received services

11,246

Children who entered foster care

2,454

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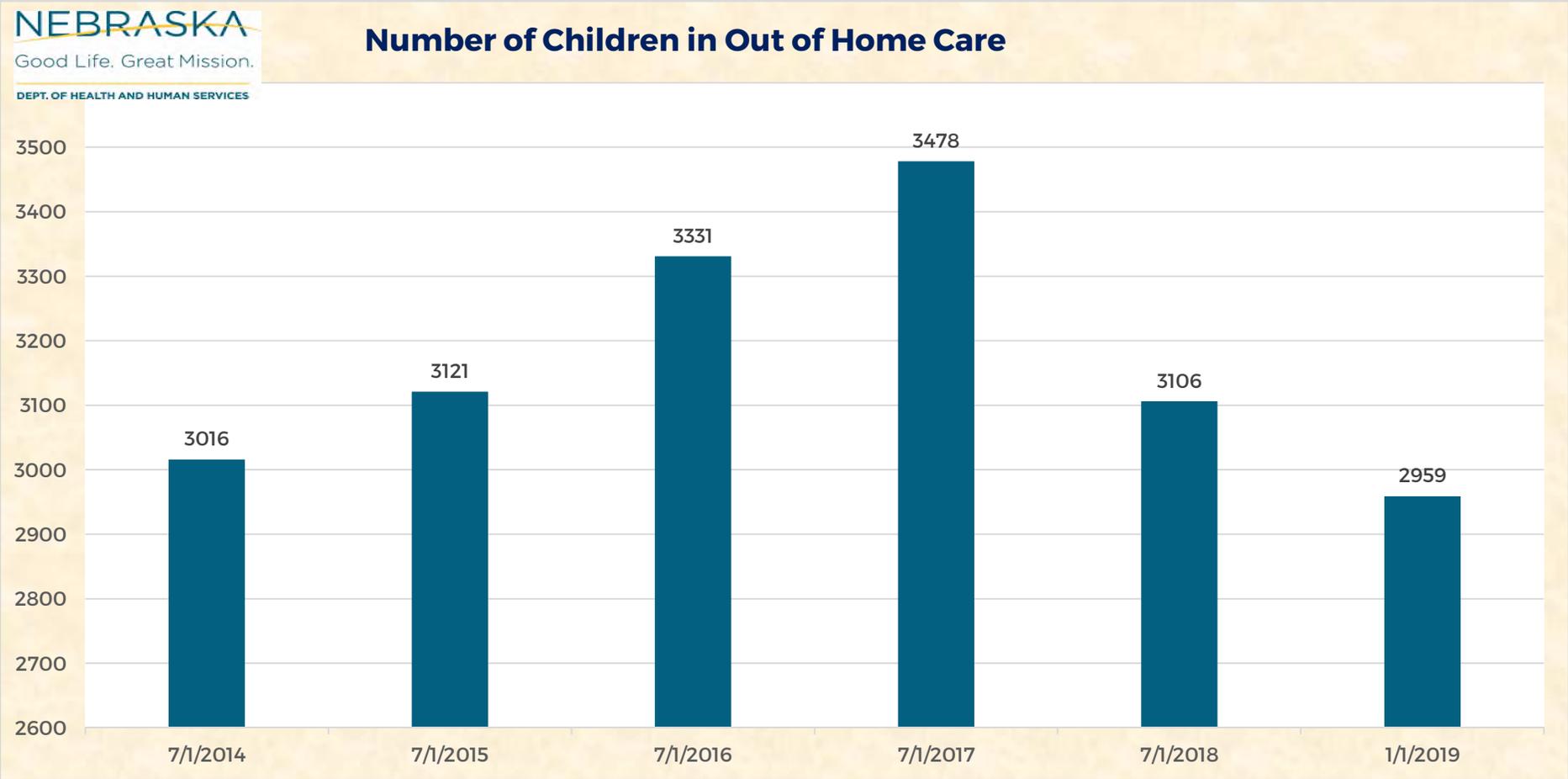
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- Casey Family Programs: 2016 Nebraska State Fact Sheet

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Nebraska: Children living in foster care



*Excludes youth placed in YRTC's

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Nebraska: Children living in foster care

The FFPSA will substantially assist Nebraska in continuing its efforts of serving more families in the home

2017:
3,478

Jan 2019:
2,959

Decrease
15%

Excludes youth placed in YRTC's

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What do we know from Nebraska data?

The majority of children enter foster care due to neglect.

Annually approximately 45% of children who enter out-of-home care are ages 0-5.

Approximately 46% of children who enter out-of-home care ages 0-5 have at least one parent who was also a state ward.

50% or more of children who enter out-of-home care in Nebraska is due to parental substance use.

As of January 2019, approximately 60% of all children served are in out-of-home care and 40% are in-home.

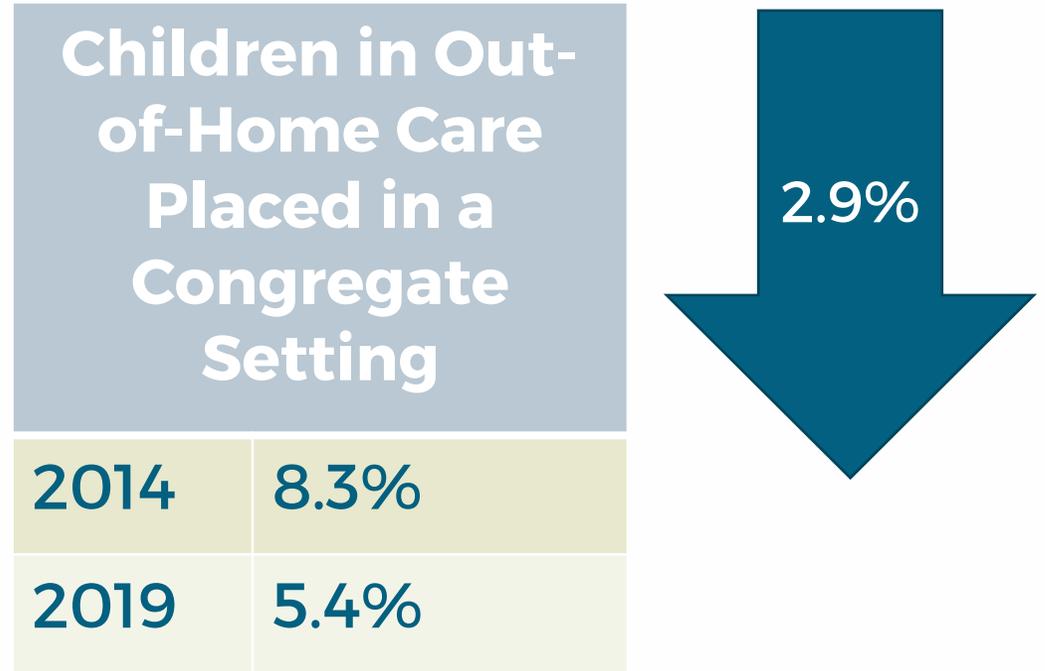
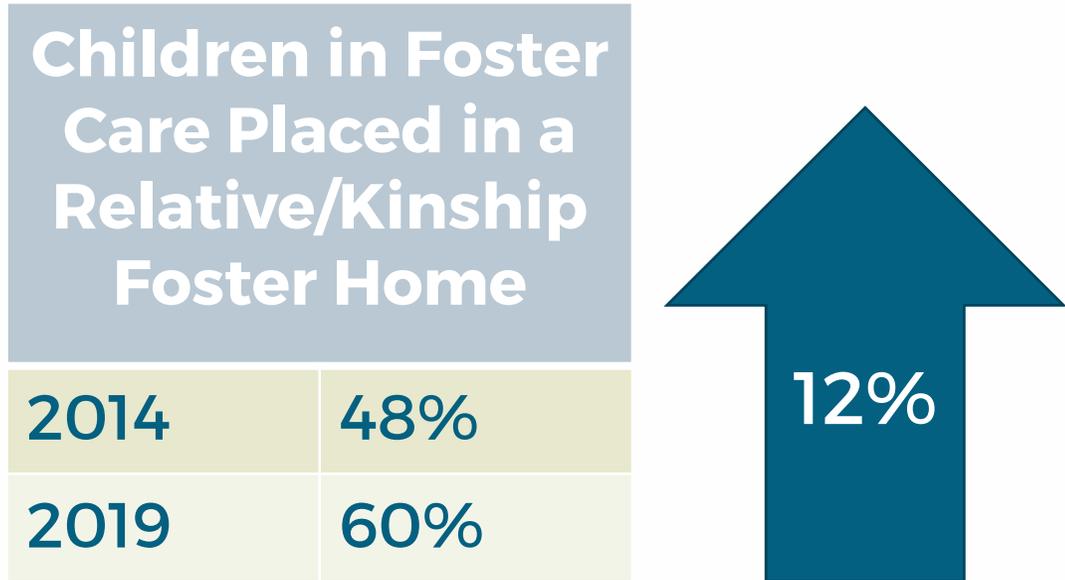
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Children in Out-of-Home Care: Placement Type



**Child Welfare
Funding**

**Nebraska
Families
Served**

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FFPSA Overview

Enacted into law February 9, 2018

New federal funds to increase, not replace, state funds for prevention

Purpose is to provide support to children and families to prevent foster care placements

All of the provisions have different effective dates.

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Goals of FFPSA



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Title IV-E Prevention Program

Effective date: 10/1/2019
Optional for states: Nebraska opting in

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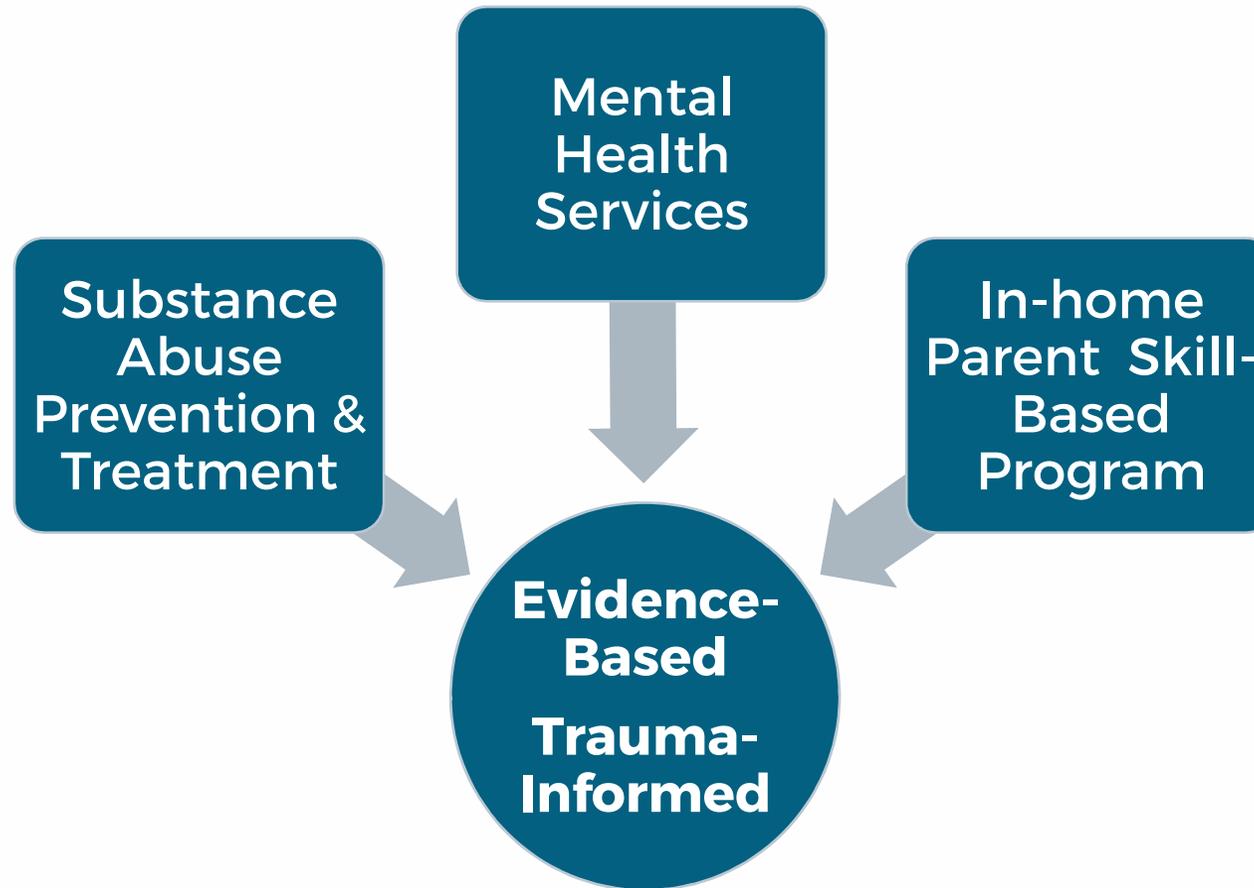
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Prevention Program

Allows federal funds to cover the cost of prevention programs to prevent children from entering foster care.



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Title IV-E Prevention Program

Eligible:

Candidates for foster care who can remain safely at home or in a kinship placement

A child whose adoption or guardianship arrangement is at risk of a disruption or dissolution

A child/youth in foster care who is pregnant or parenting

The parents or kin/relative caregivers of these children

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FFPSA Modifications Related to Placements

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Placement Limitations

Limitations on title IV-E foster care payments for placements that are not foster family homes

Effective date: 10/01/2019
Required for all states

Title IV-E foster care payments are limited to two weeks unless it is an approved placement (see next slide)

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Approved Placements that are not foster family homes

Family-based residential substance abuse treatment facility

A setting specializing in providing prenatal, post-partum, or parenting supports for youth

Supervised independent living for youth over 18

Specialized placements for survivors of sex trafficking

A Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)

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Placement with Parent in a Treatment Facility

Title IV-E Foster Care Maintenance Payments for Children with Parents in a Licensed Residential Family Based Treatment Facility for Substance Use

Optional for states: Nebraska opting in

Allows foster care payments for up to 12 months for an eligible child placed with a parent in a licensed residential family-based substance abuse treatment facility

Treatment facility must provide parenting skills training, parent education and individual and family counseling under a trauma-informed framework

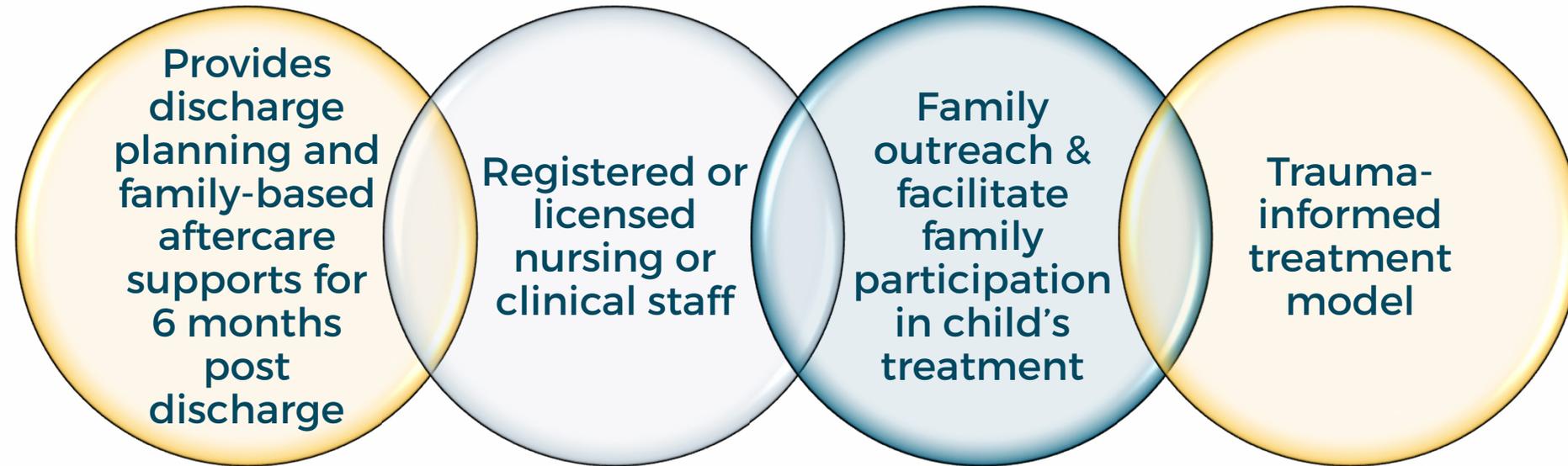
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Components of a Qualified Residential Treatment Program (QRTP)



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QRTP

30 day assessment

- To determine what placement setting best meets the child's needs
- Develop short-term and long-term mental health and behavioral health goals

60 day court review

- Court must approve placement in QRTP in order for State to continue to claim federal funding

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Other FFPSA Placement Modifications

Foster Care Licensing

- HHS must identify and implement national model licensing standards for foster family homes
- Required for all states; Effective 4/01/2019

Limit Foster Home to six children

- Exceptions to this limit are: to allow parenting youth to remain with their child, siblings to stay together, a child with a meaningful relationship with a family to stay with that family, and family with special training or skills to care for a child with severe disabilities
- This provision is completed in Nebraska

Proof of Foster Care

- Provide official documentation to prove the child was in foster care to the child
- This provision is completed in Nebraska

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Additional FFPSA Modifications

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FFPSA Modifications: Services

Kinship Navigator Program

- To assist kinship caregivers in learning about, finding, and using programs/services to meet the needs of the children they are raising and their own needs.
- Effective 10/1/18
- Optional for States: Nebraska opting in

Chafee Foster Care Program

- Extend this program to youth who were in foster care at age 14 up to age 23 for Nebraska
- Youth may still be eligible if they aged out before age 18
- Effective 2/9/18
- Required for states

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Additional FFPSA Modifications

Preventing Inappropriate Diagnoses

- Plan procedures to ensure that children in foster care are not diagnosed inappropriately with mental illness and other disorders leading to inappropriate non-foster family home placements
- Required for all states; Effective 01/01/2018

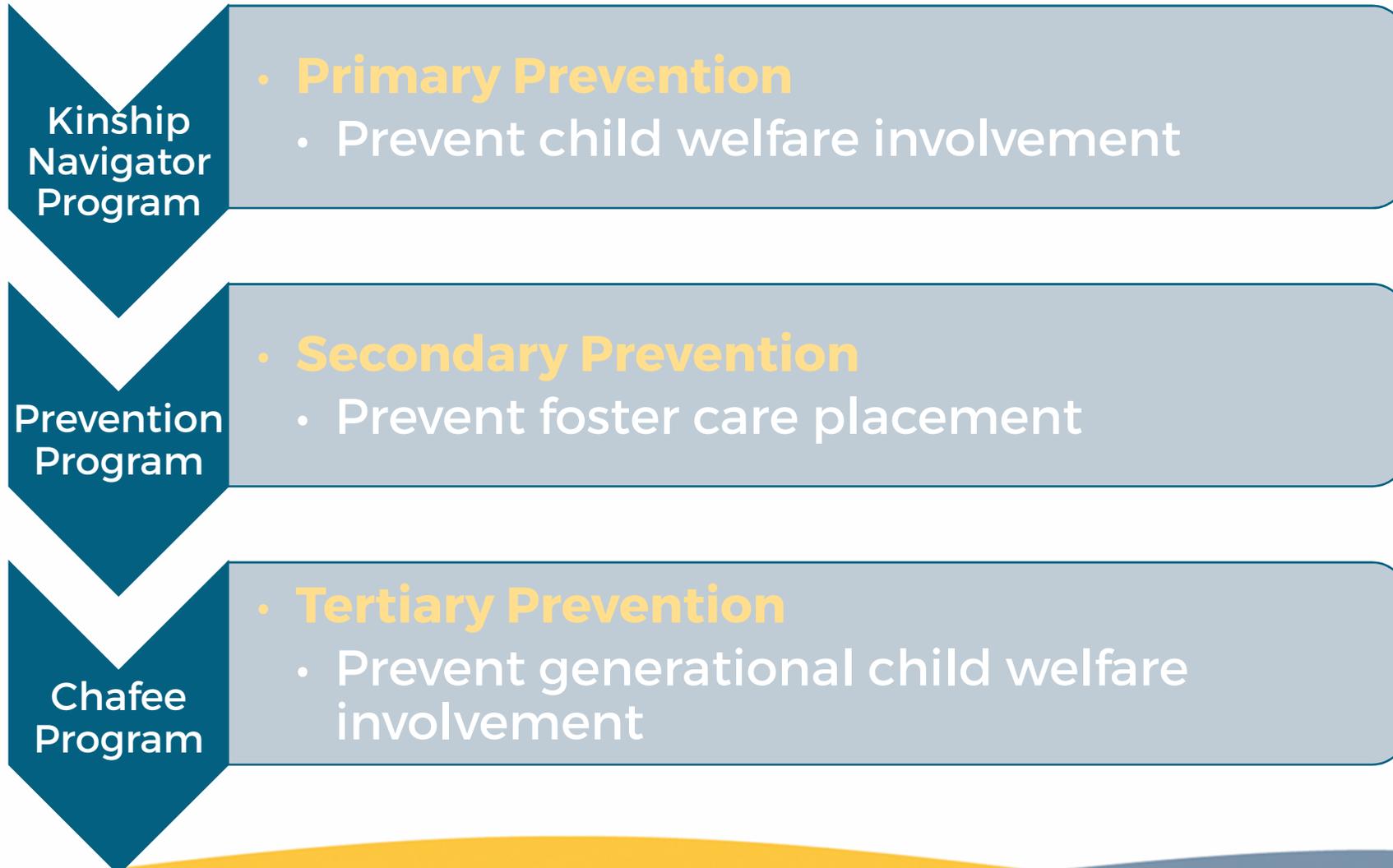
Child Maltreatment Deaths

- Describe the steps taken to track and compile complete information on child maltreatment deaths from several specified sources and steps to develop and implement a statewide plan to prevent fatalities
- Required for all states; Effective 01/01/2018

Criminal Record & Registry Checks

- Requires fingerprints, national crime information databases & child abuse/neglect registry checks on any adult working in a child care institution
- Required for all states; Effective 10/01/2018

FFPSA: Continuum of Prevention



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Rethinking Foster Care

“Efforts to build protective factors and prevent initial acts of harm are less expensive and less intrusive in the lives of families than formal system involvement and foster care placement.”

- US DHHS Children's Bureau

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For more information:

<http://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/Family-First.aspx>

DHHS.familyfirst@Nebraska.gov



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